

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Tetsunori OTAGURO

Serial No.:

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: DRIVE-SECTION-ISOLATED FOUP OPENER



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)

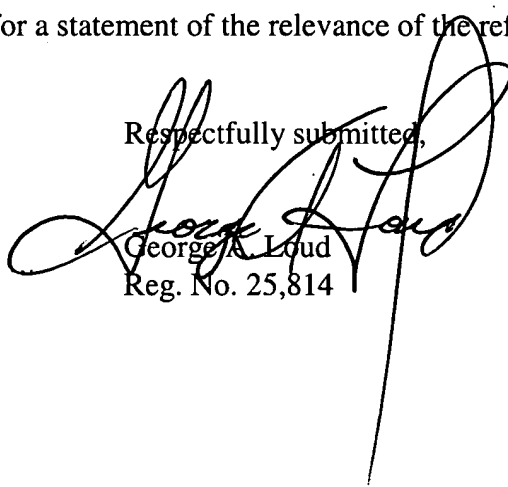
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the examiner consider and cite of record Japanese Kokai 11-145244 and PCT Publication WO99/28965. A copy of Kokai 11-145244 and a published English language abstract thereof are submitted herewith. Also submitted herewith is an English language abstract for WO99/28965.

The significance of Japanese Kokai 11-145244 is explained at page 2, line 9 to page 3, line 21 of applicant's specification and the examiner's attention is directed to that teaching as a statement of the relevance of the reference. Likewise, the significance of WO99/28965 is explained at page 3, line 22 to page 4, line 21 of applicant's specification and the examiner's attention is directed to this latter teaching for a statement of the relevance of the reference.

Respectfully submitted,


George A. Loud
Reg. No. 25,814

Dated: October 16, 2001
LORUSSO & LOUD
3137 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22305
(703) 739-9393

#4
FDS
ASW
DEC
21, 2001